To Whom it May Concern:

As a person who has been known to take up the mantle for those who are underprivileged, I am voicing my support for THEATREVISION.

Recently, I had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with Helen Harris as she pursues her dream to make major motion pictures, television shows and stage productions come more fully to life for those whose eyes are all too accustomed to unrelenting darkness. She is bringing light and art and hope to visually challenged people everywhere, and I hope you will make it possible for her work to continue.

I have completed one project with Helen, and I would like to do more. I strongly urge significant funding for THEATREVISION.

Very sincerely,

martin She

Martin Sheen

Jeb. 23,1996

To Whom it May Concern:

What a pleasure it was to get a call from Helen Harris, asking me to lend my support to her "Little Women" THEATREVISION project.

Not only did I have a wonderful time, but I and my fellow actresses were duly impressed with the caliber of the descriptive narration script. While reading it, the familiar story took on new and deeper meanings, even for me!

I would very much be interested in doing another THEATREVISION project, and give Helen my whole-hearted support in this worthy endeavor.

two felybor

Best regards,

June All son



7th February 1996

THEATREVISION

<u>"BATMAN FOREVER"</u>

Dear Jim and Helen,

Just a short note to say how much I enjoyed recording your Theatrevision script with Michael.

I think these special soundtracks are absolutely superb and wish you every success with all your future films. I can only hope that our recording is up to your high standards and that we have done your script justice.

Please contact me if there is any information you require regarding the tapes and I hope that we will have the pleasure of recording more Theatrevision tracks in the future.

Kind regards,

Henry Dobson

Magmasters III Limited
Part of the Photobition Group PLC

20 St. Anne's Court, London WTV 3AW + 0171-437 8273 • Fax: 0171-494 1281
Replaced in England No 31014/2 - Replaced Office 21 Community Read Pullium Landon SW6 3HR



DIGITAL THEATER SYSTEMS ...

To Whom it May Concern:

Some time ago, I received a phone call from Helen Harris. She told me she had created a way for the blind and vision impaired to return to motion picture theaters and fully enjoy movies once again through a process of descriptive narration. Helen wanted to know if the technology existed to deliver this narration to visually challenged movie goers without disturbing the sighted members of the audience. I was intrigued.

DTS is a growing, worldwide company, and our technology enables us to do things that nobody else in the world can do. So, when Helen brought this idea to us, there was just no reason not to pursue it. The technology existed, there was a demand for it, and we felt as though we needed to do it.

Just a few months later, on December 28, 1994, the Cineplex Odeon Fairfax Theater in Los Angeles premiered TheatreVision's descriptive narration of the Academy Award-winning movie, "Forrest Gump," complete with our DTS delivery system. It was an incredible victory over darkness, and we at DTS were gratified to have been a part of it.

Supporting this worthwhile program will ensure that one day, no visually challenged child or adult will have to be deprived of the wonderful experience of the motion picture.

Sincerely

RADIO STATION KIEV

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BROADCASTING COMPANY

EXECUTIVE OFFICES AND STUDIOS

60 SAN FERNANDO ROAC SLENDAÇE MAÇ FORNIA (M. 1997) 12 Maç Doğumu (M. 1997) adındır. FAX (M. 1997) adında

March 4, 1996

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am writing to express my overwhelming support for "TheatreVision" which I'm pleased to say was introduced right here on KIEV during Helen Harris' special holiday broadcast from 9p.m. until midnight. The show served a wonderful purpose bringing vivid verbal pictures of Christmas pageantry and color to many who are visually challenged.

The unique and marvelous concept of "TheatreVision" brings descriptive narration making movies readily accessible to the sight impaired. It's remarkable, yet so simple. I'm delighted KIEV played a part in launching this innovative concept.

In a time when so many N.E.A. funded projects have come under fire for good taste, I can't think of a more worthwhile and helpful project for people as "TheatreVision." I voice my support!

My fullest regards,

Fred Taylor

FT/ms

BOB BARON

ADR/NARRATION MIXER

February 20, 1996

Helen Harris
TheatreVision
P.O. Box 900
Woodland Hills, CA 91365

Dear Helen:

Having been the recording mixer for the descriptive narration for the blind on "Forrest Gump", "Braveheart" and "Home for the Holidays", I am writing this to record my enthusiasm for your TheatreVision project.

Recognizing the need for the vision-impaired to be able to join others in normal social activities. I am happy to tell you of my commitment to your project. I will be more than happy to record your narration on any future project for which I am requestred.

Sincerely,

Bob Baron

Bot Bason

dd611



PO. Box 900 Beverly Hills, California 90013-0900 Phone 310 369 3986 . Fax 310 369 2105

FOX FILMED ENTERTAINMENT A DVIT OF NEWS CORPORATION

> Perer Chemin Chairman

March 12, 1996

To Whom It May Concern:

As an emertainment executive and decision-maker, I am voicing my enthusiasm for Helen Harris' Theatre Vision program for the visually challenged.

Helen Harris has galvanized the Hollywood community with her vision for the blind to "see" movies, television programs and stage productions via TheaterVision. I am extremely impressed with the quality of the production, both in writing and narration.

I hope that you will seriously consider this worthy program for funding.

Sincerely,

Peter Chernin



To Whom it May Concern:

The Cable Radio Network is home to a weekly radio show hosted and produced by Helen Harris. Broadcast throughout the United States, Helen's show brings much needed information and encouragement to disabled and visually impaired listeners. On her show, Helen is able to share news about important breakthroughs of vital importance to her audience, not the least of which is "TheatreVision," a way for the visually disabled to enjoy movies and television. During her 3 hour Christmas Evo broadcast, Helen's listeners experienced a "sampling" of TheatreVision as she played excerpts from two of her TheatreVision films, along with descriptions of Christmas, poetry readings and holiday greeting card messages. The response was really remarkable.

I am delighted that CRN has been a vehicle for bringing TheatroVision to the ears of the public, and hope to see this worthy project grow and flourish.

Sincerely,

Mike Hom

Attachment 3:

TheatreVision Support Letters from Agencies for the Blind & Visually Impaired

Helen Harris
President and Founder
RP International & TheatreVision™
Post Office Box 900
Woodland Hills, CA 91365

CS Docket No 97-141

National Eye and Retinal Transplant Foundation

Dedicated to the Restoration and Preservation of Eyesight

Founding TheatreVision^{™©} Committee

Army Archerd Wendy Finerman Mary Ann Grasso Sherry Lansing Barry London Penny Marshall Gerald Molen Vin Scully Joel Sill Joel Silver Gary Sinese Oliver Stone Steve Tisch Tim Warner Robert Zemeckis

TheatreVision^{™©} Support Agencies

University of Alabama at Birmingham Ocular Disease and Low Vision Service

University of Alabama at Birmingham Low Vision Patient Care

Alabama WLRH Radio Reading Service

American Foundation for the Blind

Arkansas State Library Arkansas Regional Library for the Blind

The Blind & Visually Impaired Center California

California Community Blind Center

State of Colorado Colorado School for the Blind

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Rehabilitation Services to the Blind

Colorado Families of the Blind, Inc.

orthern Illinois University rograms in Vision

Western Illinois University
WIUW/WIUW Radio Information Service
Director

Mary Bryant Home for the Visually Impaired Illinois

University of Kentucky Kentucky Deaf Blind Project

Manitoba Blind Sport Association

National Braille Press Inc., Massachusetts

K-R-E-S-G-E Eye Institute Low Vision Service, Michigan

Mississippi State University

Burns Clinic Department of Ophthalmology, Michigan

North Carolina Department of Human Resources Division of Services for the Blind

Pennsylvania Guiding Light for the Blind

Overbrook School for the Blind, Pennsylvania

Low Vision Clinic A United Way Agency, Texas

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, Tennessee

Utah State University

'ermont Association for the Blind and isually Impaired

Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, D.C.

The State of Wyoming Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation

Lighthouse of Broward County, Florida

Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind, Florida

Deicke Centers for Visual Rehabilitation, Illinois

Southern Illinois Talking Book Center

Illinois School for the Visually Impaired

Gary Community School Corp., Indiana

Southwestern Jefferson County Schools Indiana

Kansas State School for the Blind

Kentucky School for the Blind, Kentucky

Lowell Association for the Blind Massachusetts

Audio Journal, Massachusetts

Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minnesota

Vision Enrichment Services, Michigan

State of Montana Department of Public Health & Human Svcs. Blind and Low Vision Services

National Federation of the Blind

New Mexico State Library

Helen Keller Services for the Blind New York

National Association for Visually Handicapped, New York

Metrolina Association for the Blind, Inc. North Carolina

South Carolina State Library

Prevent Blindness, Tennessee

Hermann Eye Center University of Texas - Houston Medical School

West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, Texas

San Antonio Lighthouse, Texas

Prevent Blindness, Texas

WIF89 Public Radio Virginia Tech Radio Reading Service

Commonwealth of Virginia - Department for the Blind

Scripps Memorial Hospitals Mericos Eye Institute, California State Library of Louisiana

Radio Reading Service Western and Central Montana

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority Nova Scotia

California Department of Education

The Sequoia Braille Transcribers California

Families of the Blind, Inc. Colorado

Department of Public Health and Social Services Guam

Low Vision Clinic State of Hawaii

Illinois Center for Rehabilitation and Education

The Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired

The Guild for the Blind Illinois

Western Kansas Talking Books

The Mississippi Council of the Blind

Jackson Chapter, Mississippi Council of the Rlind

in Touch Networks, inc.

WXXI Reachout Radio, New York

The Akron Blind Center and Workshop, Inc.
Ohio

Oregon Commission for the Blind

Guiding Light for the Blind Pennsylvania

Overbrook School for the Blind Pennsylvania

Biblioteca Regional para Ciegos y Fisicamente Impedidos de Puerto Rico

RAAQ, Quebec

South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind

Tennessee Department Human Services - Blind Services

Tennessee Rehabilitation Center

Vision Rehabilitation Service Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary

The Lighthouse, Washington



North Wales Professional Building 212 North Main Street North Wales, PA 19454-3117

Phone: 215-661-9800 Fax: 215-661-9888

SERVING THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

(e6 2) January 17, 1997

Ms. Helen Harris TheatreVision P.O. Box 900 Woodland Hills, CA 91365

Dear Ms. Harris:

I have noted your efforts to include audio description in motion pictures in television programming. Of course, the many consumers served through our organization are in full support of this effort and I believe that it would be a great asset to their enjoyment of this form of entertainment.

I also thought that you may be interested in the enclosed letter addressing a specific area of television programming which is a source of frustration to many.

Thank you for your efforts and please allow us to remain on the mailing list for future notices.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Yingling Executive Director

DAY/jmt



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

George Allen Governor Office of the Governor January 20, 1997

Robert C. Metcalf Secretary of Ficalth and Human Resources

Ms. Helen Harris Theatre Vision Post Office Box 900 Woodland Hills, California 91365-0900

Dear Ms. Harris:

I received your letter of January 13, 1997 notifying me of my membership on your advisory committee.

It is inappropriate for me to serve on this committee in my present position as Virginia's Secretary of Health and Human Resources, therefore, please remove my name from your list.

I offer my best wishes for the future of your group.

wery truly yours

Robert C. Metcalf

RCM:csn



TOMMY G. THOMPSON

Governor State of Wisconsin

February 18, 1997

Ms. Helen Harris, President RP International Post Office Box 900 Woodland Hills, CA 91365

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for your letter regarding Project Audio Description. I appreciate the time you took to write and your patience in awaiting a response.

I applaud your efforts to extend this accommodation to blind and visually impaired citizens. As you make contact with television and cable systems in Wisconsin, I suggest you enlist the help of the Office for the Blind within the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services. The Office Director, Mr. Michael Nelipovich, can be reached at (608) 243-5656.

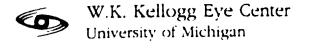
My highest regards and best wishes for success in your efforts.

Sine ely,

TOMMY G. THOMPSON

Governor

TGT/epk



Vision Through Education: Science, and Medicine

1872

1997

Department of Ophthalmology 1000 Wall Street Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105

Dear Director:

As a professional dealing with the visually challenged, I am writing in support of RP International's innovative TheatreVision program.

The fact that TheatreVision was conceived and developed by Helen Harris, a woman who is, herself, blind from retinitis pigmentosa, lets me know it is a program which has fully addressed the particular needs of the visually disabled.

I believe it is vital that the blind and visually impaired be afforded the same opportunities to participate in mainstream popular culture as their sighted counterparts. More often than not, the blind are an overlooked and under-served population in terms of providing avenues for the enjoyment of meaningful entertainment.

TheatreVision removes a barrier that has, until now, prevented the blind from having full access to the enjoyment of motion pictures, television and live performance. I am happy to see that barrier being lifted, and offer my support and encouragement in the furtherance of this very important program.

Very truly yours,

Danna Wicker Or





January 2, 1997

To Whom it May Concern:

As a Social Worker dealing with the visually impaired, I am writing in support of RP International's innovative TheatreVision program.

I believe it is important that the blind and visually impaired are afforded the same opportunities to participate in mainstream culture as their sighted counterparts. TheatreVision will allow for full access to the enjoyment of motion pictures, television, and live performances.

I offer my full support and encouragement in the furtherance of this very important program.

Sincerely,

Christine Hinton, M. Ed.

Social Worker



January 8, 1997

RP International P.O. Box 900 Woodland Hills, CA 91365 Attn: Helen Harris

Dear Helen.

We are very pleased to enclose a check in the amount of \$2,500.00 as a contribution from Universal Studios, Inc. for one (1) Ebony Sponsor Ad for the Eyes of Christmas hosted by Vin Scully and Army Archers held October 30, 1996 at the Bel Age Hotel in Los Angeles.

Due to the limited funds we have available to support many worthy organizations, we are especially happy that we can make a meaningful contribution at this time, towards the exceptional efforts of your fine organization.

On behalf of all your friends at Universal Studios, please accept our warmest best wishes to you, and high hopes for the continued success of your organization's important work.

Sincerely,

Helen D. Giambrone, Manager

deline & James and

Corporate Contributions

HDG/cnj

Enclosure



Frank Sinton Vice President Programming

October 21, 1996

Ms. Helen Harris
President and Founder
RP INTERNATIONAL
P O Box 900
Woodland Hills CA 91365

Dear Helen:

We at The Disney Channel are great admirers of the work of TheatreVision, and are delighted to hear the great news that the visually impaired children, young adults and seniors are beginning to enjoy the audio-description of motion pictures. Now, we are proud to be part of your audio-description with "The American Teacher Awards" program, a Disney show of which we are all very, very proud.

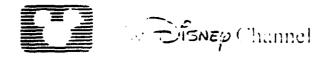
"The American Teacher Awards" will be aired on The Disney Channel on December 14th and 15th during our Free Preview. It will encore for our subscribers on other dates as well. With this audio description, we are hoping to help you bring the Teacher Awards show to the millions of visually impaired people who will benefit from this technology that "describes" what is on the television screen.

This new "art form" and educational opportunity will bring the "description" of what is happening at "The American Teacher Awards" to the eyes of millions and we are very proud of this pioneering venture.

Sincerely.

Frank Sinton

FS/vd



occaber 21, 1996

M. Helen Harris President and Founder EP INTERNATIONAL P O Box 900 Woodland Hills CA 91365

Ocar Helen:

We at The Disney Channel are great admirers of the work of TheatreVision, and are delighted to hear the mean news that the visually impaired children, young adults and semors are beginning to enjoy the audio-ic cription of motion pictures. Now, we are proud to be part of your audio-description with "The American Teacher Awards" program, a Disney show of which we are all very, very proud.

"The American Teacher Awards" will be aired on The Disney Channel on December 14th and 15th during our Free Preview. It will encore for our subscribers on other dates as well. With this audio description, we are hoping to help you bring the Teacher Awards show to the millions of visually impaired people who will benefit from this technology that "describes" what is on the television screen.

This new "art form" and educational opportunity will bring the "description" of what is happening at "The American Teacher Awards" to the eyes of millions and we are very proud of this pioneering venture.

Liank Sinton

1 - 4

To Whom It may Concers. In a recent publication, I read atout your involvement with a new program known as theatre - Vision I teach visually impaired students in Scithein Indiana. My students have theroughly enjoyed watching Descriptive Videos. I know they would absolutely & Thulled to be able to attend a morre theatie and gain the same experience I appland and support your efforts. you have a brochure or publication alter your program, I would gladly pas it on to the parents of my visually impaired Students I would also like to __ send one to our state consultant to be used in our state-wide neurletter to . other teachers of the Visually impaced Flease Send information to: Mrs Xail Crowley Teacher of the Visually Impaired 273 Main Cross

Mark you -

pamere, Indiana 47243



December 12, 1996

To Whom It May Concern:

As the executive director of the Blind & Visually Impaired Center of Monterey County, I am writing in support of RP Interantonal's innovative TheatreVision program.

Since Thaatre Vision was developed and conceived by a blind person, Helen Harris, I feel the program addresses the real needs of the visually disabled.

I strongly believe that the visually impaired should have the same opportunities to participate and enjoy mainstream, contemporary culture just as their sighted counterparts. It is the unfortunate reality that the blind and visually impaired are often overlooked and underserved in terms of providing avenues for the pleasure of meaningful entertainment.

TheatreVisions gives the blind and visually impaired complete access to enjoy motion pictues, live performances and television. This is a wonderful accomplishment and I support and encourage this important program.

Sincerely,

K Henson

Kathy Henson Executive Director

> 225 FAUREL AVENUE PACIFIC GROVE 12 A 9 1 9 3 0 27 408 649 3505 244 408 649 4557



UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION 250 East 500 South Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

> Scott W. Bean. State Superintendent of Public Instruction

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Lynn Haslem
C. Grant Hurst
Boyd F. Jensen
Milton Kendrick
Kay McDonough
Marriyn Shiekls
Waynette Steel
John I. Watson

Voice (801) 538-7500 FAX (801) 538-7521 TDD (801) 538-7876 December 16, 1996

Helen Harris, Director TheatreVision P.O. Box 900 Woodland Hills, CA 91365

Dear Helen,

As an advocate for children with disabilities, including those with vision impairments, I am writing in support of RP International's innovative TheatreVision program.

The fact that you, helen, a woman blinded by retinitis pigmentosa, conceived and developed TheatreVision, lets me know it is a program which has fully addressed the particular needs of the visually disabled.

I believe it is vital that the blind and visually impaired be afforded the same opportunities to participate in mainstream popular culture as their sighted counterparts, and this includes children. More often than not, the blind are an overlooked and under-served population in terms of providing avenues for the enjoyment of meaningful entertainment.

As you know, TheatreVision removes a barrier that has, until now, prevented the blind from having full access to the enjoyment of motion pictures, television and live performance. I am happy to see that barrier being lifted, and offer my support and encouragement in the furtherance of this very important program.

On behalf of Utah students with vision impairments, thank you.

Sincerely,

Dale Sheld, Specialist

Communication Disordsers and Learning Disabilities.

held

and Technical Assistant to the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind





COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

George Allen Governor Robert C. Metcalf Secretary of Health and Human Resources

December 19, 1996

Ms. Helen Harris President and Founder Retinitis Pigmentosa International Post Office Box 900 Woodland Hills, California 91365

Dear Ms. Harris:

This is in reply to your letter to Governor Allen regarding "Project Audio Description." As we approach the twenty-first century, we see ever increasing technological advances that will enhance lives of individuals who are blind or visually impaired. The ability to provide audio track in movie theaters is one such advancement.

Please know that Governor Allen is committed to providing opportunities for individuals with disabilities to become employed and to participate in all the recreational and entertainment activities enjoyed by all citizens of Virginia.

Working with private individuals such as movie theaters in Virginia, the administration will continue to encourage their involvement with efforts that will add to the lives of citizens with disabilities

I join the governor in congratulating you and the movie industry for the development and use of a second audio track for the blind and visually impaired and offer best wishes for the future.

Potent C. Val Cara

Robert C. Metcalf

RCM:kp



September 4, 1996

To Whom it May Concern:

As a professional dealing with the visually challenged, I am writing in support of RP International's innovative TheatreVision program.

The fact that TheatreVision was conceived and developed by Helen Harris, a woman who is herself, blind from retinitis pigmentosa, lets me know it is a program which has fully addressed the particular needs of the visually disabled.

I believe it is vital that the blind and visually impaired be afforded the same opportunities to participate in mainstream popular culture as their sighted counterparts. More often than not, the blind are an overlooked and under-served population in terms of providing avenues for the enjoyment of meaningful entertainment.

TheatreVision removes a barrier that has, until now, prevented the blind from having full access to the enjoyment of motion pictures, television and live performance. I am happy to see that barrier being lifted, and offer my support and encouragement in the furtherance of this very important program.

Sincerely,

Dawn K. DeCarlo, O.D., M.S.

unk De Crenes, Orms

Chief, Low Vision Patient Care



September 4, 1996

To Whom it May Concern:

As a professional dealing with the visually challenged, I am writing in support of RP International's innovative TheatreVision program.

The fact that TheatreVision was conceived and developed by Helen Harris, a woman who is herself, blind from retinitis pigmentosa, lets me know it is a program which has fully addressed the particular needs of the visually disabled.

I believe it is vital that the blind and visually impaired be afforded the same opportunities to participate in mainstream popular culture as their sighted counterparts. More often than not, the blind are an overlooked and under-served population in terms of providing avenues for the enjoyment of meaningful entertainment.

TheatreVision removes a barrier that has, until now, prevented the blind from having full access to the enjoyment of motion pictures, television and live performance. I am happy to see that barrier being lifted, and offer my support and encouragement in the furtherance of this very important program.

Sincerely,

Rodney Nowakowski, O.D., PhD.

Director, Ocular Disease and Low Vision Service



WLRH Public Radio

UAH Campus South Loop Road Huntsville, Alabama 35890-3009 205-895-WLRH (9574)

205-895-WURH (957 205-830-4577 Fax 1-800-239-9574

18 October 1996

Dear Director:

As someone who deals with people with vision impairments, I am writing in support of RP International's innovative TheatreVision program.

The fact that TheatreVision was conceived and developed by Helen Harris, who is herself blind from RP, lets me know that it is a program which has fully addressed the particular needs of the visually-disabled.

I believe it is absolutely crucial that the blind and sightimpaired in our society be given the same opportunities as their sighted counterparts for taking part in mainstream popular culture. More often than not, people with sight impairments are a vastly overlooked and underserved part of our population, especially regarding opportunities for enjoyment of meaningful entertainment.

TheatreVision removes a barrier that has, until now, kept the sight-impaired from fully enjoying movies, television and live performances. I am pleased that the barrier is being lifted, and offer my full support and whole-hearted encouragement in furthering this vitally important program.

Sincerely,

Scott Passmore

Volunteer Coordinator

WLRH Radio Reading Service